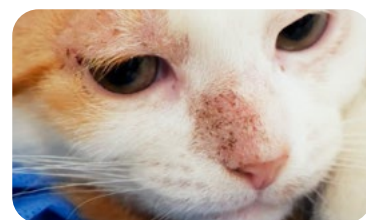


Your Pet Has Recovered from Ringworm: What You Need to Know

Congratulations on adopting your new pet! Your furry friend has successfully completed treatment for **ringworm**, a common fungal skin infection.

What is Ringworm?

- Ringworm is **not a worm**—it's a common fungus (*Microsporum* or *Trichophyton*) that affects skin, hair, and nails.
- It spreads through contact with:
 - ↘ An infected animal or person
 - ↘ Contaminated objects (e.g., grooming tools, bedding)
- After exposure, the fungus attaches to hair, skin, or nails. Signs usually appear within **1–2 weeks**.
- Some common symptoms include:
 - ↘ Hair loss (often patchy).
 - ↘ Scaling or crusting of skin
 - ↘ Itching
 - ↘ Some animals have a 'classic' ring-shaped skin rash, where "Ringworm" got its name from.



Who Can Get Ringworm?

- It's **contagious** to other animals and humans, **but your pet has been treated and cleared before adoption**.
- All ages can be affected, but it's most common in:
 - ↘ Pets and people with a compromised/weakened immune system
 - ↘ Children, puppies and kittens
 - ↘ Older people and pets



Is My Pet Still Contagious?

- Your pet has been **treated and cleared by a veterinarian** before going home with you.
- While the risk is very low, occasional fungal spores may remain. Simple hygiene steps will help prevent any issues.

What Should I Do at Home?

1 Practice Good Hygiene

- Wash your hands after handling your pet.
- Avoid sharing grooming tools between pets for a few weeks.

2 Clean Your Pet's Environment

- Regularly vacuum and mop areas where your pet spends time.
- Wash bedding, blankets, and toys in hot water.

3 Monitor for Recurrence

- Watch for signs like hair loss, scaly patches, or redness.
- If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian promptly.



Can Ringworm Come Back?

- Reinfection is rare if your pet stays healthy, and your home is clean.
- Regular grooming, good nutrition and vet checkups help your pet's skin stay healthy

Need Help or Have Questions?

Contact your veterinarian or email our adoption team at mail@rspcansw.org.au for advice and support.

